

## PROJECT APPLICATION SUMMARY FORM

Project Title Parker's Revenge Interpretative and Public Education Project

### APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name of Applicant/Contact Person: Robert J. Morris

Title/Position: President

Group or Committee Affiliation (if any):

Friends of Minute Man National Park

Applicant/Contact Person's address, contact phone number, and email:

174 Liberty Street  
Concord, MA 01742  
978.318.7122  
rmorris@friendsofminuteman.org

### PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Site Address:  
Rt. 2A near Airport Road  
Project Site Assessors Map/Parcel: Map 52 Parcel 10  
Project Site Deed Book/Page: NPS Deed #159  
Book 12310 Pages 534-536

Purpose (please check all that apply)

☐ Open Space  
☒ Historic  
☐ Recreation  
☐ Housing

Brief Project Description:

Preservation of historic artifacts discovered at Parker's Revenge battle site and permanent exhibit/signage

### COSTS

Fiscal Year	Total Project Cost	CPC Funds Requested	Other Funding Sources (amount and source)
2018	\$116,350	\$41,350	
2019			
2020			
2021			
2022			
2023			
TOTAL	\$116,350	\$41,350	

Signature of Applicant: Robert J. Morris Date: 10/28/16

For Community Preservation Committee Use Only:

Application Received On: \_\_\_\_\_ Project Presented to CPC on: \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Determination: \_\_\_\_\_

**TOWN OF LEXINGTON  
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

**Project Title: Parker's Revenge Historical Interpretative and Community Education Project**

*Please attach a narrative on all applicable subjects.*

**1. Scope or concept of project:**

The Parker's Revenge battle site sits in Lexington on a rocky hill near the border of Lexington and Lincoln and lies within the boundaries of Minute Man National Historical Park. At this site, on April 19, 1775, a fierce battle led by Captain John Parker and his Lexington militia transpired as the Lexington company opened fire on the British soldiers on their retreat back to Boston. The site, based on archival research, ground surface investigations, archaeological excavations and metallic surveys consists of stone walls and boulders, fields, and sites where the Nelson Bridge, the Tabitha Nelson barn, and Nelson home structures once stood. Parker's Revenge was the focus of a research investigation led by Dr. Meg Watters that included compiling and synthesizing all historical and contemporary documentation, design and development of a Geographical Information System and archaeological field work that employed the use of ground-penetrating radar, sophisticated metal detectors and cutting edge technologies. The Town of Lexington's Community Preservation Committee was a critical asset supporting field studies that included non-invasive mapping of the subsurface features and artifacts and performing three metallic surveys that successfully uncovered 29 fired and unfired musket balls dating back to April 19, 1775.

The project received significant national and local media attention highlighting the bravery of the Lexington militia. A final, comprehensive report summarizing all aspects of the research study and learnings will be made available to the public in November 2016. The first phase of the Parker's Revenge initiative -- research and archaeology -- was funded through private contributions, grants and a Lexington Community Preservation award.

The second phase of the Parker's Revenge Project sponsored by the Friends of Minute Man National Park in collaboration with National Park Service staff and community groups, involves historic interpretation and community education -- the focus of this CPA application. The Friends of Minute Man National Park is seeking support to design and create park visitor resources that will bring the story of Parker's Revenge to life for all who visit Minute Man National Historical Park.

The public education elements for which we are seeking CPA support are:

- Design, fabrication and installation of a wall-mounted, museum quality exhibit case constructed to house the archaeological artifacts. This will include labels and interpretive text.
- The design and installation of graphic wayside exhibit panels.
- Development of a solar powered audio component for external exhibit panels.

Other interpretation and community education projects envisioned by the Friends should funding sources emerge, but not part of this CPA application, are a rendering of artist Don Troiani's painting of Parker's Revenge and a digital kiosk with battle information.

The third and final phase of the Parker's Revenge initiative will be rehabilitation of the battlefield to its April 19, 1775 appearance so that future generations can appreciate history that transpired at the site. The Friends are actively seeking foundation support for that particular component of the project.

**2. Project goal and objectives; (Indicate how the Category Specific Criteria for the CPA are met).**

The project goals are to preserve, restore and maintain the historic Parker's Revenge battle site and to educate the public of the battle's significance as it relates to the Revolutionary War.

The objectives of the Parker's Revenge Interpretive and Community Education Project are:

- A. Preserve historic resources discovered as part of the site archaeological studies.
- B. Plan, design and create museum quality exhibit to securely store original artifacts that include 29 fired and unfired British and American musket balls.
- C. Provide ongoing community education regarding the Captain Parker's Revenge battle incorporating the battle with the historical events and timeline of April 19, 1775.

The Parker's Revenge Interpretive and Community Education project goals and objectives are closely tied to the Town of Lexington's Community Preservation Committee general criteria focused on the acquisition, preservation, rehabilitation and restoration of historic resources.

The Project scope, concept and execution fulfill the CPA requirement that designates at least 10% of CPA funding for the purpose of preserving open space, historic resources and community housing. Friends of Minute Man National Park believes the Project is also consistent with current Town of Lexington planning documents, serving to preserve

the original character of the Town, save resources that would otherwise be threatened, and provide a long-term contribution or enhancement to the Town as outlined within the Town of Lexington 2015 Community Preservation Plan Needs Assessment. The Project specifically addresses the CPC goal of:

***Protect, preserve, enhance, restore, and/or rehabilitate historic, cultural, architectural or archaeological resources of significance especially those that are threatened.***

We further believe that the Project will, as a natural by-product, benefit underserved populations bringing history to life for the enrichment and enjoyment of the entire community regardless of age or economics as a free public resource. The Visitor Center exhibit and wayside signage will offer a town wide, long term cultural benefit preserved within the boundaries of Minute Man National Historical Park based in Lexington further illustrating Lexington's important role in the Revolutionary War.

- 3. Projected action plan and timeline: (List steps needed to complete project. These steps will be critical to completing Project Status Reports that will be due in time to report back to Town Meeting each year until the project is complete.)**

Upon receiving a favorable vote at the March 2017 Lexington Town meeting, Friends of Minute Man National Park, in collaboration with National Park Service staff will engage the services of an exhibit design professional when the full award and related contract has been executed. It is expected that the design work associated with one wall mounted exhibit display case and two wayside graphic exhibit panels will begin in April 2017 and conclude July 2017. Fabrication will occur in August 2017 and final installation of both the exhibit case and wayside panels will occur in September 2017. A final report will be disseminated for the Town of Lexington in October 2017.

- 4. Anticipated project cost: (Provide a budget with line itemization.)**

To date, the Friends of Minute Man National Park have raised \$182,699 and expended \$160,000 to fully fund the research and archaeology phases of the Parker's Revenge initiative. Forward anticipated costs to complete the full project include:

Item	Cost
<i>Interpretation and Community education</i>	
Exhibit planning and design	\$13,500
Visitor Center Exhibit Case(s) and graphic panels fabrication and installation	\$17,500
Outdoor Wayside Exhibit Panels (3)	\$ 3,000
Exhibit Stands (3)	\$ 1,350
Installation of outside exhibit panels	\$ 1,500
Audio component with solar power	\$ 4,500

*Battlefield Rehabilitation*

Land Restoration	\$75,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$116,350</b>

**5. Other funding sources, including private/private/in-kind**

The Friends of Minute Man National Park's ten-member Board of Directors and other volunteers will contribute between 50 and 75 hours of monthly voluntary in kind support focused on the Parker's Revenge initiative.

A \$45,000 funding award was granted to The Friends Minute Man National Park in October 2016 by the Amelia Peabody Charitable Fund to support land restoration to preserve the battle site.

Other private foundation funding will be secured to support costs associated with additional interpretation and community education components and the completion of the battlefield rehabilitation as part of the forward project budget of \$116,350.

**6. CPA funding request:**

Friends of Minute Man National Park is seeking a total of **\$41,350**

**7. Budget justification: (provide an explanation for why each type of expense is needed.)**

Planning and design costs of \$13,750 are necessary to obtain accurate measurements, develop text and graphics, select materials, create 2-3 design examples, select vendor(s) and develop a timeline for project completion.

The museum quality wall mounted exhibit case(s) will be fabricated and installed at the Route 2A Visitor Center at a cost of \$17,500 consistent with similar project costs and based on input from design professionals who specialize in such exhibit design.

The three-graphic exterior wayside panels will be fabricated and installed at a cost of \$4,500 which includes gray scale and full color markups, stands for the three panels cost \$1,350 and installation costs are projected at \$1,500. An audio narration powered by solar energy completes the exhibit at a cost of \$4,500.

**8. List and describe any comparable projects**

- a. Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, West Virginia installed similar display cases and low tech interactive wayside exhibits at a cost of \$34,375 including planning, fabrication and installation.
- b. Saratoga National Historical Park, New York planned, designed and fabricated wayside exhibits depicting the battle of Saratoga for a total cost of \$28,000 excluding interior display case(s).

**9. Relevance to the community: (indicate how project is relevant to the current and/or future needs of Lexington.)**

The Project speaks to Lexington's Vision Statement: Fostering a Sense of Community as outlined by the Vision 2020 group which indicates its first vision consists of appreciation of the Town's history, through the "preservation and celebration of historic town assets, including local events and interest points as well as Lexington's national attractions." The curation of important, historical artifacts uncovered within the battle site with also have significant value to Lexington's rich historical resources groups including the Lexington Historical Commission and the Lexington Historical Society.

**10. Supporting documents: (Provide supporting letters, references, studies, maps and statistics.)**

**Attachments:**

- Support Letter – Lexington Historical Society
- Support Letter – Lexington Minutemen
- Support Letter – His Majesty's Tenth Regiment of Foot
- Lexington Minute Man Editorial
- Minute Man National Historical Park visitor statistics

LEXINGTON  
Historical Society  
*History • Education • Community*

October 21, 2016

Ms. Elaine Miller  
Executive Director  
Friends of Minute Man National Park  
174 Liberty Street  
Concord, MA 01742

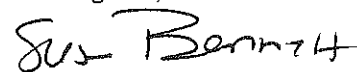
Dear Ms. Miller:

It is with pleasure that the Lexington Historical Society offers our enthusiastic support as Friends of Minute Man National Park continues the campaign to restore and interpret the site of Parker's Revenge. The battle, led by Captain Parker and the Lexington militia, was a heroic event that adds a valuable element to the interpretation of the historic events of April 19, 1775.

The Lexington Historical Society has actively engaged in the Parker's Revenge project through our volunteerism and engaging the community in informational presentations. We have been pleased to be part of the experience and look forward to having the battle field fully restored for public enjoyment. The proposed interpretation will serve to engage the thousands of visitors that explore Minute Man National Historical Park and will connect people of all ages to the story of our nation's liberty.

We wish you great success in securing community and foundation resources that that will support costs associated with signage, visitor center display cases and permanent placement of the musket balls discovered in the projects initial phase.

Best regards,



Susan Bennett  
Executive Director

## The Lexington Minute Men, Inc.

(Member, The Centennial Legion of Historic Military Commands, Inc.)



Post Office Box 1775  
Lexington, Massachusetts 02420

October 20, 2016

Ms. Elaine Miller  
Executive Director  
Friends of Minute Man National Park  
174 Liberty Street  
Concord, MA 01742

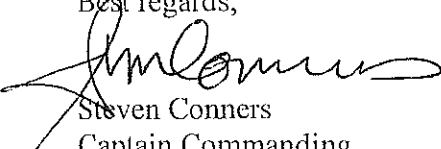
Dear Ms. Miller:

I'm happy to support the Captain Parker Revenge project as your organization works to preserve and curate the artifacts discovered through the 2015 battle site archeological survey. Displaying the musket balls and providing permanent signage within the National Park's Visitor Center will bring visitors new knowledge of the historic events that transpired in Lexington, Lincoln and Concord on April 19, 1775.

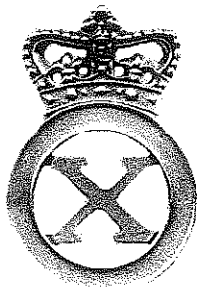
The Lexington Minute Men have enjoyed being involved in this project on many levels including serving as excavation and site clearing volunteers, participating in the Parker's Revenge military tactical study group and bringing the re-enactment community together to provide visitors with a unique revolutionary war learning experience over Patriot's Day weekend. We have all been pleased with the recognition the project has received both locally and nationally knowing we are part of a significant discovery that provides a new dimension to the opening battle of the American Revolution.

The Lexington Minute Men have enjoyed a strong collaborative relationship with Friends of Minute Man National Park and are eager to assist your organization's fundraising endeavors to insure the actions of Captain John Parker's militia company becomes a permanent part of the Park's educational resources. We wish you much success in acquiring funding that will underwrite costs associated with a museum quality display and related signage panels.

Best regards,

  
Steven Connors  
Captain Commanding  
Lexington Minute Man

*"Stand your ground – Don't fire unless fired upon; But if they mean to have a war Let it begin here."*  
-April 19, 1775 – Captain Parker



*His Majesty's Tenth Regiment of Foot*  
*in America*

October 20, 2016

Ms. Elaine Miller  
Executive Director  
Friends of Minute Man National Park  
174 Liberty Street  
Concord, MA 01742

Dear Ms. Miller

The dedicated members of His Majesty's Tenth Regiment of Foot are very pleased to support the Friends of Minute Man National Park and your 2016 funding request to Lexington Community Preservation Committee. The Parker's Revenge battle site restoration project has uncovered a significant piece of 1775 history providing Lexington and the public with an exciting new opening battle story of heroism led by Captain Parker and the Lexington Minute Men as they fought against a formidable British army. His Majesty's Tenth Regiment of Foot has been a strong campaign contributor and we were pleased to take part in the coordination and execution of the 2015 Patriot's Day re-enactment of Parker's Revenge.

We have excitedly followed the campaign's progress and hopeful that through additional Lexington Community Preservation support artifacts dating back to April 19, 1775 will soon be permanently displayed at the Minute Man National Historical Park's Visitor Center. The educational aspect of the Parker's Revenge project will enrich the visitor experience through signage and displays that will bring the battle to life for generations to come while preserving a critical piece of our revolutionary war history.

We wish you success.

Sincerely, on behalf of our Board of Directors,

Paul O'Shaughnessy  
Colonel, Board member  
His Majesty's Tenth Regiment of Foot

# Editorial: Praise for public-private partnership

Lexington Minuteman Posted Oct 5, 2015

A quiet spot off a dead-end road in Lexington is about to become the spot of national attention for historians and archaeologists because of the announcement that musket balls from British Regulars and Colonial militia members were discovered.

The items mark the location of the battle of Parker's Revenge and will led the experts to determine how about 10 minutes of American history occurred. During Parker's Revenge, Lexington militia Capt. John Parker led his men to take on the British troops for the second time on April 19, 1775, as the British soldier retreated to Boston.

What was discovered is vital to the story of America, but what we are proud to praise is the public-private partnerships forged with this project.

From the Friends of the Minute Man National Historical Park, the Lexington Minute Man Company and other volunteers to the park staff and the archaeologists onsite, everyone agrees this project could write the model for collaborative efforts. We hope it does.

Private companies and the federal Park Service have provided documentation, equipment, experts and more. Individuals and organizations provided money and hours of labor, as have the federal and local governments.

This team of archaeologists, historians and volunteers continue one of the first major research-based excavation projects in the park in more than five decades. We cannot wait to see this project completed and for it to be replicated.

When the government and private citizens work together, history can be uncovered (literally) to discover something new instead of just determining how to replace a drainage pipe.

## Minute Man NHP

Bookmark this report: [https://irma.nps.gov/Stats/SSRSReports/Park%20Specific%20Reports/Summary%20of%20Visitor%20Use%20By%20Month%20and%20Year%20\(1979%20-%20Last%20Calendar%20Year\)](https://irma.nps.gov/Stats/SSRSReports/Park%20Specific%20Reports/Summary%20of%20Visitor%20Use%20By%20Month%20and%20Year%20(1979%20-%20Last%20Calendar%20Year))

	Recreation Visitors	Non- Recreation Visitors	Concession Lodging	Tent Campers	RV Campers	Concession Camping	Backcountry Campers	Misc Campers	Total Overnight Stays
<b>2015</b>									
January	26,071	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
February	12,826	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
March	35,230	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
April	119,078	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
May	99,873	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
June	103,075	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
July	117,712	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
August	119,052	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
September	94,710	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
October	112,950	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
November	63,310	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
December	60,443	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>2015 Totals</b>	<b>964,330</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Report Totals</b>	<b>964,330</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>